

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02018 120437Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02 SY-05 A-01 USSS-00 DHA-02
IO-13 /072 W

-----120506Z 006792 /12

O 120350Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2617
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2018

HONG KONG FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MARR KS US ASEC
SUBJ: SMALL NDP GROUP DEMONSTRATES ON CHANCERY GROUNDS

REF: SEOUL 2005 (DTG 110858Z MAR 77)

1. AT 1100 HOURS MARCH 12, APPROXIMATELY 40 WELL-DRESSED MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY ENTERED CHANCERY COMPOUND CHANTING SLOGANS OPPOSING UNITED STATES TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM KOREA. GROUP CARRIED TWO LARGE BANNERS ALSO STATING NDP OPPOSES TROOP WITHDRAWAL. ACCOMPANIED BY SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER LOCAL PRESSMEN AS WELL AS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS AND TV AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHERS, GROUP CONTINUED SLOGAN CHANTING FOR ROUGHLY 25 MINUTES IN PEACEFUL FASHION. CHANCERY SECURITY DOOR WAS LOWERED AND NO EFFORTS WERE MADE BY GROUP TO ENTER CHANCERY, DAMAGE PROPERTY, OR CREATE OTHER DISTURBANCE. GROUP STREWED COPIES OF SPECIAL EDITION OF NDP PAPER MINJU CHONSON MADE UP IN FORM OF LEAFLET, AROUND EMBASSY PARKING LOT AND CHANCERY ENTRANCE.
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2. GROUP MAY HAVE DESIRED TO SEND DELEGATION INTO CHANCERY BUT WITH SECURITY DOOR LOWERED, WE CANNOT BE SURE OF THIS.

3. LOCAL POLICE ARRIVED ON SCENE ROUGHLY 10 MINUTES AFTER DEMONSTRATION BEGAN. THEY DID NOT ENTER CHANCERY COMPOUND, POSITIONING THEMSELVES OUTSIDE PERIMETER GATE. POLICE DID

PERMIT ADDITIONAL PERSONS TO JUMP OVER FENCE. AFTER 25 MINUTES OF CHANTING AND PICTURE TAKING, DEMONSTRATORS DEPARTED CHANCERY GROUNDS APPARENTLY OF OWN VOLITION. SOME BRIEF SCUFFLING WITH POLICE ENSUED OUTSIDE EXTERNAL CHANCERY GATE AND POLICE HAVE INFORMED US THAT 20 MEMBERS OF GROUP WERE MARCHED OFF TO NEARBY POLICE STATION. CHANCERY GROUNDS AND ENTRANCE CLEARED IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER AND WE HAVE HAD NO FURTHER SIGNS OF DEMONSTRATION AS OF THIS WRITING. ALL POLICE AS WELL AS DEMONSTRATORS HAVE LEFT SCENE.

4. INITIAL INQUIRIES INDICATE THAT PARTY HEADQUARTERS DID NOT OFFICIALLY TIP OFF PRESS IN ADVANCE; HOWEVER, NEWSPAPER REPORTERS COVERING THE PARTY HEADQUARTERS ALERTED NEWSPAPERS AND BUREAU OF IMPENDING DEMONSTRATION AND PRESSMEN ARRIVED WITH DEMONSTRATORS. POLICE INFORM US THEY HAD NO ADVANCE NOTICE OF DEMONSTRATION.

5. FOLLOWING IS ROUGH, INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF HEADLINES AND MAIN BODY OF MINJU CHONSON LEAFLET STREWN ABOUT BY DEMONSTRATORS IN FRONT OF CHANCERY BUILDING.

BEGIN QUOTE:

HEADLINES: WE RESOLUTELY OPPOSE THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM KOREA. KOREAN SECURITY IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO SECURITY OF NORTHEAST ASIA. WE RESPECT PRESIDENT CARTER'S STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS. WE FEEL ANXIOUS TOGETHER WITH PEOPLE OF THIS LAND, AND CALL FOR IMMEDIATELY CONVENING OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

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MAIN BODY: THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE NDP YESTERDAY MORNING, MARCH 11, DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL. ACTING HEAD OF THE NDP, SHIN DU HWAN, DIRECTED THIS MEETING DEALING WITH QUESTION OF CARTER'S POLICY ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND ISSUED SPECIAL STATEMENT OPPOSING WITHDRAWAL. THE STATEMENT INDICATES WE CANNOT RESTRAIN OUR SENSE OF CONCERN AND ANXIETY OVER THIS POLICY. THE SECURITY OF ALL OF NORTHEAST ASIA IS RELATED TO KOREAN SECURITY. THE STATEMENT ALSO ADDRESSES THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE OF THE NDP HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED OUR VIEW THAT THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE KEPT ENTIRELY SEPARATE FROM QUESTION OF U.S. TROOPS AND WE HAVE ALREADY POINTED THIS OUT TO THE AMERICAN SIDE. THE CONTENTS OF OUR RESOLUTION HAVE BEEN COMMUNICATED TO WASHINGTON THROUGH THE NDP'S HIGHEST REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS NOW PRESENT IN WASHINGTON. END QUOTE.

6. REMAINDER OF LEAFLET QUOTES FULL TEXT OF NDP PARTY RESOLUTION OF MARCH 11 REPORTED REFTEL, AND MARCH 10 ANNOUNCEMENT

BY NDP HUMAN RIGHTS SURVEY COMMITTEE DENOUNCING RECENT VIOLA-
TIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOREA, INCLUDING HOUSE ARREST OF DR.
CHONG IL-HYONG (NDP ASSEMBLYMAN AND MYONGDONG DEFENDANT).
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL02018
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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